

Family Mediator Certification Board  
Minutes  
September 9, 2015

Present: B. Sturke, T. Sturke, E. Christensen, C. Dochstader, E. Dinerstein, M. Garner, C. Sadler, E. Jasina, R. Cram and P. Goldsmith

Excused: M. Rousseau

Also Present: P. Heinrich and Karen McCall

T. Sturke called the meeting to order at 4:15 PM and officially welcomed E. Jasina to the Board.

**Approval of Prior Minutes**

B. Sturke made a MOTION to approve the minutes of July 22, 2015 with corrections. Second: R. Cram. MOTION PASSED with C. Sadler and M Garner abstaining.

E. Christensen made a MOTION to approve the Non-Public minutes of July 22, 2015 with corrections. Second: T. Sturke. MOTION PASSED with C. Sadler and M Garner abstaining. ]

**Continuing Education Requests**

C. Dochstader made a MOTION to send a letter to Pamela Peterson explaining that the Board needs additional information about “Friendly Family Mediation,” an on-line course provided by Elinor Robin and David Spoff, before this course could be approved for continuing education credits. Second: E. Dinerstein. MOTION PASSED.

**Administrative Assistant’s Report**

After discussion, T. Sturke made a MOTION that the Board will accept applicant electronic signatures going forward; however, it will require original signatures on letters of recommendation and intern evaluations. Second: P. Goldsmith. MOTION PASSED.

**Board Membership Update**

T. Sturke thanked K. McCall for her many years of membership on the Board and presented her with a gift from the members.

**DV Protocol Update**

T. Sturke reported that the Coalition is willing to re-print and make available to the courts its booklet “*What You Should Know about Domestic Mediation and Mediation.*”

E. Christensen shared some changes to the DV Protocols that Molly Brown and Gina Belmont had suggested.

B. Sturke made a MOTION to approve the DV Guidelines for NH Certified Family Mediator as revised. Second: C. Dochstader. MOTION PASSED unanimously.

E. Christensen reported that future conversation with Ms. Brown and Ms. Belmont is necessary because not all courts include this booklet in their first appearance handouts. She requested that a good first step would be a letter to them thanking them for their input, enclosing the approved guidelines and stating the Board is looking forward to working with them in this on-going effort.

K. McCall reminded the members that the Rules need to be updated to include a question/statement on both initial and renewal applications that “the applicant has read and agrees to abide by the DV Guidelines.”

**Upcoming Hearing**

T. Sturke told the members that she had asked M. Garner to serve as the presiding officer at the hearing which would be held as part of the next meeting on October 14<sup>th</sup>.

M. Garner explained the hearing process and gave a brief summary of the case. He said members would listen to the applicant and could ask questions of witnesses after the witnesses had testified. He said after the testimony had concluded, there would be time for Board discussion about the case.

C. Sadler requested clarification from the Board’s attorney about whether the Board vote on the matter must take place in Public Session or could take place in Non-Public Session.

M. Garner requested that P. Heinrich create a chronological list of documents that were part of the record of this case that would be available to the members and asked members to arrive promptly at 4 PM.

**Non-Public Session I: RSA 91-A:3 II c.**

B. Sturke made a MOTION to go into Non-Public Session under RSA 91-A:3, IIc: Personal. Second: P. Goldsmith. A roll call vote was held. MOTION PASSED.

The Board began Non-Public Session at 5:30 PM.

The Board resumed Public Session at 5:48 PM.

B. Sturke made a MOTION to SEAL the Non-Public minutes. Second: T. Sturke. MOTION PASSED.

R. Cram made a MOTION to adjourn. Second: E. Christensen. MOTION PASSED.

T. Sturke adjourned the meeting at 5:50 PM.